THE CITY OF YPSILANTI NEWSLETTER

OCTOBER 2022

FROM THE DESK OF THE CITY MANAGER

Greetings from the City Managers' Office. The year has flown by, and it's not slowing down at this rate. It's hard to believe that it's already October. The days are getting shorter and colder, and we know the Fall season is here. With Halloween right around the corner, I'd love everyone to maintain their traditions and to do so safely. I wish good health to all and to remain active within our community.

Autumn approaching, there are still many fantastic events in Ypsilanti, including the Ypsilanti Farmers market running throughout October at both the Downtown (Tuesdays 3 PM - 7 PM) and Depot Town (Saturday 8 AM- 12 PM) locations. Also, ypsiGLOW returns to our community on October 28th from 7 PM - 10 PM, which is always fun for all ages. Please refer to the city calendar for daily event updates.

Because the days are getting shorter, and streetlights are turning on sooner. If you notice any street light outages contact DTE directly at (800) 548-4655.

If you haven't visited yet, a reminder of Fed Up Ministries at the Ypsilanti Transit Center (220 Pearl Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48197) Every Wednesday from 1:45-2:45, serving lunch for all. Fed Up Ministries is dedicated not to selling food but to addressing food injustice and food insecurity by offering free meals with a side of hope and dignity. What an asset for our community!

Now is the time to get your flu shots. If you haven't yet, please visit this website for resources.

Also, at the Ypsilanti Senior Center, Catholic Social Services of Washtenaw County presents a three-session workshop on Linking Older Adults with Resources on Medication, Alcohol, and Mental Health. The dates are October 6th, 13th, and 20th at 12 PM. Topics include: coping with life transitions, using medication wisely, mental health awareness as it relates to aging, keeping a healthy outlook on life, and how to get in touch with resources to help. For information on upcoming events at the Senior Center, please visit their website.

Lastly, free COVID-19 test kits are available, and those without internet can call 211 for help ordering at-home testing. Households will receive one kit containing five tests. Order online at

accesscovidtests.org! Those without internet access can call 211 for help ordering tests. More COVID-19 testing information is found here.

The county is still at high risk for contracting COVID-19, and this remains a concern, and we can support one another by getting vaccinated and boosted. If we are following state and county guidelines, it is our best effort to reduce the spread of the virus. Please contact the local health department regarding vaccination and testing opportunities in the community. If you're feeling ill, wear a mask or stay home. We must work together as a community to keep one another safe.

Staying Connected,
Frances McMullan

FROM THE DESK OF MAYOR LOIS ALLEN RICHARDSON

Greetings,

"While waiting for things to change, don't be discontent with where you are. Learn to enjoy the season you're in". ~Joel Osteen

October, which happens to be my favorite month, came quickly or so it seems, bringing many changes with it. We get to see the beautiful colors of the leaves as the trees prepare for winter. As we move from Summer to Autumn and Fall, I am reminded these are seasons of transition, a reminder of change. We move from bright long summer days to early dark Fall days. Light, airy clothing to layers of clothes that are cozy and warm. Our thoughts turn to the upcoming holidays centered around

gratitude, helping others, and acts of kindness. I find change to be necessary, and it teaches us to adapt and helps us develop resilience. We all experience seasons of difference in our lives and we do better when we flow with the change. If you don't like the season you are in, just wait; it will change.

October is Breast Cancer Awareness Month. This year's theme is: "Together We Rise". Use your voice, passion, support, and resources to help others RISE reach other women and ensure they have access to breast screening and other services.

If you are a breast cancer survivor, now is a good time to share your journey and encourage someone by telling about an experience you had while healing or someone you may have helped during their breast cancer treatment. If you have a family member or friend who is battling breast cancer, be kinder than usual and do all you can to help them RISE. Remember to take a moment and Test Your Knowledge about Breast Cancer Awareness.

October is also the time to work on our maintenance checklist and it seems to get longer:

- Clean the furnace
- Inspect sink and tub drain and unclog if necessary
- Test smoke alarms, carbon monoxide, fire extinguisher, and all ground circuit interrupters
- Rake leaves and aerate lawn

Breast Cancer Awareness

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Rise Up

Woman	Survivor	Support	Self Breast Exam
Research	Pink Ribbon	Monthly	Minorities
Medical History	Annually	Breast	Cancer
Clinical Exam	Faith	Friends	Hope
Life	Lump	Mammogram	

Test Your Knowledge

- Check the fireplace
- Check seals, cracks, window, and doors for cracks
- Inspect roofing and repair any loose shingles
- Remove leaves and debris from gutters and downspouts

The above is just a few things to begin the maintenance change from Summer to Fall. Let's get busy.

For the past several years, there has been an influx in crime across the country. It has affected us also. There is also a shortage of law enforcement officers across the country, again it has affected us. Please know that we are working diligently to hire qualified police officers as well as a new Chief of Police. If you, or you know of any prospective officers please direct them to our department to start the process.

In the meantime, there are some things we can do to help our community to fight the increase in crime. We can start by putting ladders away; making trash less visible; keep shrubs trimmed and install motion sensor lightening; watch where mirrors are hung; have someone watch our homes when we're away; put away our valuables in a lockbox; avoid putting vacation

CONT. MAYOR

information on social media; and don't invite people to our homes to see stuff we're selling. These are just a few tips that can help keep us, our families and our property safe. The police can't do it all, it takes all of us working together to have a safe city. If you see something, say something, and call the police.

We thank Chief Deguisti for the dedicated service he has given the city during his time with us, and we wish him all the best as he starts the next chapter of his life. Many blessings.

October is a very exciting time for football games, apple picking, hay rides, corn mazes, Halloween and the practice of trick or treat. We want to say have fun, but most of all stay safe.

Happy October!!

LOVE is the answer,
Lois Allen-Richardson

CITY UPDATES

ELECTION NOTICE

TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 8, 2022
From 7:00 a.m. to 8:00 p.m.

To the qualified electors of the City of Ypsilanti:

Notice is hereby given that a General Election will be held in the City of Ypsilanti on Tuesday, November 8, 2022. The polls will be open from 7:00 am to 8:00 pm.

At the following locations:

Ward 1, Precinct 1:
Perry School, 550 Perry St. (Harriet St. at Hawkins St.)

Ward 1, Precinct 2:
Senior Citizens Center, 1015 N. Congress (at Oakwood St.)

Ward 1, Precinct 3:
Second Baptist Church, 301 N. Hamilton.

Ward 2, Precinct 1:
Estabrook Elementary, 1555 W. Cross.

Ward 2, Precinct 2:
Estabrook Elementary, 1555 W. Cross.

Ward 2, Precinct 3:
Estabrook Elementary, 1555 W. Cross.

Ward 2, Precinct 4:
EMU Honors College, 511 W. Forest.

Ward 3, Precinct 1:
EMU Honors College, 511 W. Forest.

Ward 3, Precinct 2:
Ypsilanti International Elementary School, 503 Oak St. (N. Prospect Street at Oak St)

Ward 3, Precinct 3:
Ypsilanti International Elementary School, 503 Oak St. (N. Prospect Street at Oak St)

For the purposes of the following:

- **Governor**
- **Secretary of State**
- **Attorney General**
- **Representative in Congress – 6th District**
- **State Senator 15th District**
- **Representative in State Legislature 32nd District**
- **County Commissioner 6th District**
- **Member of the State Board of Education**
- **Regent of the University of Michigan**
- **Trustee of Michigan State University**
- **Governor of Wayne State University**
- **County Commissioner 6th District**
- **Mayor**
- **Council Member**
- **Justice of the Supreme Court**
- **Judge of Court of Appeals 3rd District Incumbent Position (6-year term)**
- **Judge of Court of Appeals 3rd District Incumbent Position (Partial Term Ending 01/01/2025)**
- **Judge of Court of Appeals 3rd District Non-Incumbent Position (6-year term)**
- **Judge of Circuit Court 22nd Circuit Non-Incumbent**
- **Judge of District Court 14A District Non-Incumbent Position**
- **Board of Trustees Member Washtenaw Community College**
- **Board Member Ypsilanti Community Schools (6-year Term)**
- **Board Member Ypsilanti Community Schools (Partial Term ending 12/31/2024)**
- **Board Member Ypsilanti District Library**
- **Proposal 22-1: A proposal to amend the state constitution to require annual public financial disclosure reports by legislators and other state officers and change state legislator term limit to 12 total years in legislature**
- **Proposal 22-2: A proposal to amend the state constitution to add provisions regarding elections.**
- **Proposal 22-3: A proposal to amend the state constitution to establish new individual right to reproductive freedom, including right to make all decisions about pregnancy and abortion; allow state to regulate abortion in some cases; and forbid prosecution of individuals exercising established right.**
- **Ypsilanti Community Schools Operating Millage Proposal**

The full text of the ballot proposal may be obtained at the City Clerk's Office at 1 South Huron, Ypsilanti, MI, 49197. Sample ballots can also be found at www.mi.gov/vote.

Absentee ballots are available for all elections; registered voters may contact the local clerk to obtain an application for an absent voter ballot .

To comply with the Help America Vote Act (HAVA), voting instructions and Braille will be available in audio format. Arrangements for obtaining the instructions in these alternative formats can be made by contacting the township clerk before the election. All polling locations are accessible for voters with disabilities.

CONT. ELECTION

POLICE ADVISORY COMMISSION

The Ypsilanti Police Advisory commission still has open positions, For those who are interested, they meet on the fourth Thursday of every month.

- Monthly presentation from YPD with an overview of stats, department staffing and activities, use of force incidents, and citizencomplaints if any.
- Presentation and discussion of the use of body cameras. You can find YPD policies and procedures involving body cameras here.
- YPAC chair submitted the first annual report to the city council.

Fill out this online form if you are interested in the City of Ypsilanti Boards and Commissions.

FIRE STATION UPDATE

The Car Seat Program resumes on the 3rd Tuesday of Each Month at the Ypsilanti Fire Station (525 W Michigan Ave, Ypsilanti, MI). The next meeting will be held on May 17th from 12 PM - 3 PM.

For those who are interested in more knowledge on how to safely buckle children in automobiles, this program is for you. There is no registration required; just show up at these meeting times. For any questions or additional information, please contact the number (734) 763-2251.

BOARDS & COMMISSIONS OPPORTUNITIES

Arts Commission
Three Commissioners
Two Youth Members

Dangerous Bldgs
Dangerous Buildings Officer

Ethics Board
One Board Member

Human Relations Commission
Five Commissioners
Two Youth Members

Parks & Recreation Commission
Three Commissioners
One Youth Member

Police Advisory Commission
Two Commissioners

Sustainability Commission
Two Youth Members

Ypsilanti DDA
One Board Member

Zoning Board of Appeals
One Commissioner

Fill out this online form if you are interested in the City of Ypsilanti Boards and Commissions.

BICENTENNIAL COMMITTEE

Homecoming 1973 at the Freighthouse was every bit funky and groovy. For those at weren't aware, we had a fundraising event for the Ypsilanti Bicentennial Commission for future events celebrating 200 years of our loved community.

Thank you to all the volunteers and those who could attend the event! Special thanks to DJs: dannyboy, Prophet Ecks, and Batz for the great music Also, our vendors, 734 Brewing Company, and Sidetracks Bar and Grill, for providing a cash bar.

Fortunate for such a memorable evening that we will hopefully never forget. Please follow our page for updates and upcoming events. The group meets on the fourth Thursday of every month at 7 PM.

SOLAR REBATE PROGRAM

Residents can get at least a $2,000 rebate for installing solar panels on their homes or business. There is $80,000 available for rebates for anyone interested, that's enough to accommodate 40 different homes. The project has been named the Grace Sweeny Solar Rebate program and is named for the late Ypsilanti resident and wife of longtime city leader Pete Murdock.

To the businesses in Downtown and West Cross Street, the DDA has made available $150,000 in solar rebates.

More information about the DDA Solar Rebate program in the DDA section of this newsletter.

ART INSTALLATION - MJS MUSHROOMS

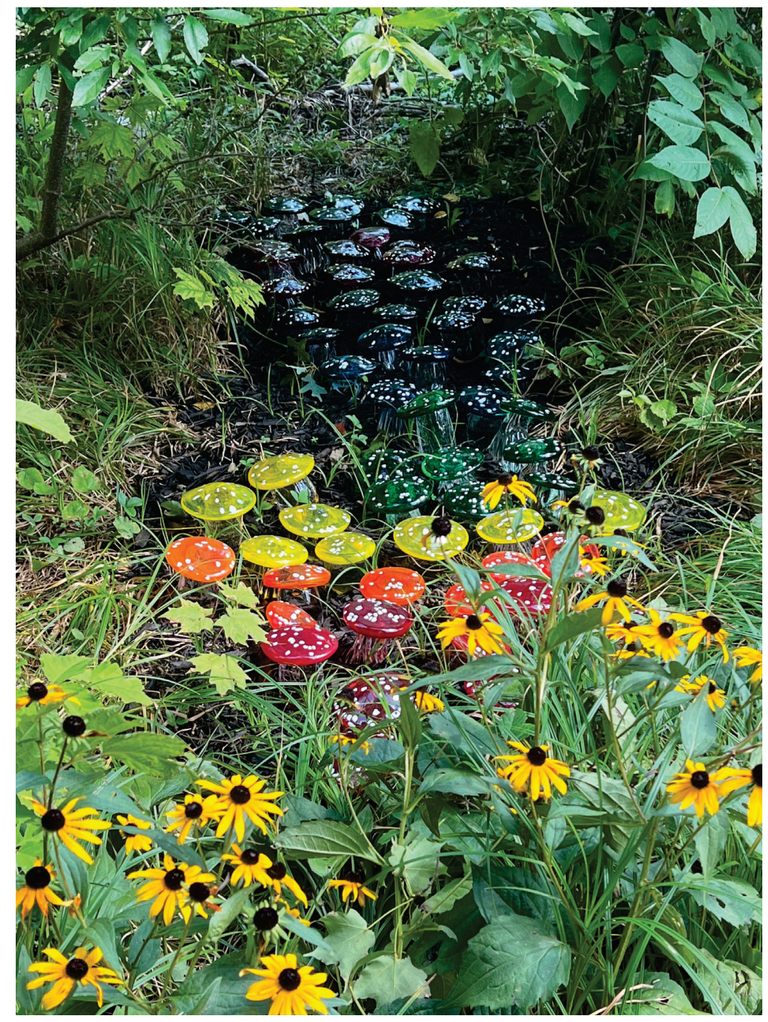
In July, the City of Ypsilanti Arts commission reviewed and approved a public art installation in Prospect Park to be considered and also approved by City Council.

Glass artist Jessica Reitmeyer installed the work in early August as a culmination of the larger body of work she calls MJ's Mushrooms. She selected Ypsilanti to install her grand finale of 100 rainbow colored glass mushrooms. The installation will remain in Luna Lake until October 8th.

On October 8th, Jessica will be removing the installation and graciuosly offering the mushrooms to community members from 10am-12pm while supplies last. Meet the artist, and take a beautiful piece for a special place of your own.

You can read more about this installation in the September newsletter.

Follow @MJsMushroom on Instagram



YPSILANTI IS PREPARING FOR CLIMATE CHANGE WHILE MITIGATING IT

The Peninsular Paper Dam, owned by the City of Ypsilanti, faces more and more extreme rainfall events because of climate change, which stresses its structure. The impoundment just upstream from the dam traps methane, a strong greenhouse gas emitter. These are two reasons why removing the dam aligns with ways to address climate change, while making a stretch on the river safer for recreation. Learn more from Ypsilanti resident and climate change expert Beth Gibbons in this HRWC guest blog.

PARKRIDGE AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM

The Parkridge Fall After-school program starts October 4th and goes till June 8th. Mondays-Thursdays 4-7pm.

After-School Programming includes:

- Math, Reading, and Writing
- Instruction by Certified Teachers
- Science Experiments
- Art Projects
- Food Provided
- And FUN!

Ages 6 - 11; maximum enrollment: 48 per safety protocols

Register today!

If you have any questions, please contact Liz Garaba at egaraba@wccnet.edu

DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES UPDATES

NEW DEPARTMENT OF PUBLIC SERVICES DIRECTOR!

The City is pleased to announce that Bonnie Wessler has been promoted to Public Services Director effective September 19, 2022.

Bonnie has become one of the longest tenured employees with the City, now at 13 years. During this time, Bonnie has earned the trust of colleagues, the public, and City Council with her dedication, professionalism, and interdisciplinary knowledge of municipal government.

Bonnie graduated from Eastern Michigan University's undergraduate Urban Planning program in 2005, and received her Masters in Urban Planning from the University of Michigan in 2008. She joined the City of Ypsilanti's Planning Department as an intern in 2009, becoming Planner I in 2010, serving as interim Planning Manager late 2014 through early 2015, then becoming City Planner through 2019, when she transitioned to the Department of Public Services where she has performed capital planning and project management, transportation, parking administration, and parks planning.

She completed the Michigan Municipal League's 16/50 training program in 2019 and continues to develop new skills year over year, demonstrating a commitment to continuous improvement. We are confident this new role will be fulfilling and challenging for Bonnie and that the department is in good hands.

CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Many thanks for your patience with our ongoing construction within our community. We're all looking forward to those orange cones leaving and having a more sustainable roadway. With the 3 out of 4 ramps closed on the I-94 overpass at Huron, this is for those who wish to travel safely through this intersection in the future without fear. This project has been a long time in the making, and it was a perfect opportunity to have these projects overlap.

The water primary replacements you may have noticed have moved from the roads Hamilton and Huron to Washtenaw Ave From Summit Street to Normal St and on Summit St from Washtenaw Ave to Pearl St. Thanks to MDOT and OHM for their excellent work and in a timely fashion. The construction will resume till the end of the year holiday season and continue with the water main replacements along Michigan Avenue.

IMPROVE YOUR LAWN BY MULCHING OR COMPOSTING LEAVES THIS FALL:

Fall has arrived, and soon we will be cleaning up fall leaves. In some instances, this yard waste can be as much as 50 percent of the solid waste generated by the household during the fall months. Before you get out the rake and the blower, we want to highlight some potential alternatives to blowing, raking, bagging, and dragging those leaves to the curb. These alternatives are mulching or composting at home.

You should consider mulching if you prefer to handle the leaves with as little effort as possible. There are several advantages to mulching, according to Michigan State University Extension. The small decomposing leaf pieces provide nutrients for your lawn over the winter for quicker greening in the spring. They also cover any bare spots in the lawn that are good places for weed seeds to germinate. Michigan State University Extension has provided the following instructions for mulching your yard:

"To mulch the leaves into your lawn, set your mower at its highest setting and mow as usual. Then mow again in the other direction, making a crisscross or ninety-degree pattern. Some leaf residue will be left on the lawn, but it will continue to break down and fall through the grass to reduce future weeds and provide those essential nutrients. After all, fall is the best time to feed your lawn. After several years, this mulching process can result in almost complete elimination of dandelions and crabgrass in some cases.

If you start mulching as the first leaves begin to fall, you should only need to mow your lawn weekly. However, if a heavy wind occurs, it may require you to mulch the leaves more frequently. Leaves can be mulched up to approximately six inches deep and have good results depending on the type of lawn mower you are using."

Another option for leaf waste disposal is to use the mower to mulch and bag the leaves and use those leaves as mulch around flower beds, shrubs, trees, and vegetable gardens. The leaves will provide nutrients and reduce weeds in those areas.

Another option for leaf removal is composting. Michigan State University Extension has the following information about composting:

"Another option for leaf removal is composting. This also can be done using your lawn mower. Instead of mulching them back into the lawn, collect them in the mower bag and form a pile. Since there is probably still some lawn growth, you will get some grass clippings mixed in with the chopped up leaf debris. This is good. A good compost pile needs both carbon (leaves) and nitrogen (grass) for best decomposition. And because the leaves are chopped up into smaller pieces, they will decompose easier, giving you finished compost faster.

A compost pile can be just that; a pile in an easily accessible area away from buildings and fences. Or it can be as elaborate as a three bin compost bin system where the yard waste is turned into the next bin on a temperature-dependent cycle. With either option, finished compost will be the final result."

These alternative leaf management options will create less waste at the curb and help you improve your lawn or garden next spring. You may also save some money in the process. For more information, please take a look at the Michigan State University Extension article about this subject.

Helpful reminders for yard waste

1. Place in brown paper compost bags or a trash can (32 gallons or smaller) with handles.
2. Bags or cans must weigh less than 50 pounds. Note: grass clippings can be very heavy! Please ensure containers are less than 50 pounds.
3. Place bags or cans approximately six feet from the trash.
4. Stickers for reusable containers may be obtained at the Department of Public Services or City Hall at no charge.
5. Must not contain rubbish, dirt, sod, plastic bags, or recyclables.

Curbside Brush Removal

The brush should be no larger than the thickness of your arm and no taller than you stand upright. All material must be bundled.

Helpful Alternative Yard Waste Solutions

Mowing your leaves and grasscycling are excellent alternative methods for yard waste.

Leaf Pickup

Leaves in compost bags or trash cans (32 gallons or smaller with a yard waste sticker) will be picked up curbside. Curbside yard waste will be picked up on your trash day.

Ypsilanti Township Compost Facility

Residents are allowed up to four passes per year for use of the compost facility.

NEWS FROM THE DDA

DDA BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

The DDA Staff and Board meet monthly to discuss various things that make Ypsilanti uniquely Ypsilanti. You can attend meetings every third thursday at 8:30am at the Ypsilanti Freighthouse (100 Market Pl.) or you can catch the minutes and packets online HERE.

YPSILANTI DDA
Downtown Development Authority

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

MEETINGS HELD THIRD THURSDAYS AT 8:30AM AT THE FREIGHTHOUSE

SEPTEMBER 22, 2022

APPROVED:

SPONSORSHIP FOR YDL- CANDY FOR HALLOWEEN EVENT

TWO CITY TRASH CANS + TWO REPLACEMENT TREES FOR THE 500 BL. OF W. CROSS ST.

DOG WASTE STATIONS DOWNTOWN

DDA EQUITY NEEDS ASSESSMENT WITH THRIVE AND SHINE

FORMAL REQUEST FOR NEGOTIATIONS WITH THE CITY REGARDING RICE STREET LOT REPAIR AND REDESIGN

2022 HOLIDAY STOREFRONT COMPETITION INCLUDING MORE PRIZE CATEGORIES

EXTENDING THE DOWNTOWN SOLAR GRANT PROGRAM BY $50,000

PROVISIONAL APPROVAL FOR A REVOLVING LOAN FUND FOR THE MATCH ON MAIN GRANT TO LEVEL THE PLAYING FIELD FOR ALL BUSINESS/BUILDING OWNERS.

REMOVE "PRIVATE INVESTMENT LEVERAGED" AS LOCAL SCORING CRITERIA FOR THE MATCH ON MAIN GRANT, AND REPLACE IT WITH A MORE EQUITABLE CONSIDERATION.

DDA SOLAR REBATE

UPDATE: The DDA has approved an additional $50,000 for Solar Proects in Downtown Ypsi. There are rebates still available for West Cross District buildings!

The DDA approved solar rebates for Downtown and West Cross districts to help encourage property owners to install solar for their commercial properties! This program will help cover 50% of your solar installation up to $10,000.

Ypsilanti has been a leader in solar power for the past 16 years. Ypsilanti currently has over 1.5MW of solar power which equates to 85.6 watt per capita and ranks Ypsi at 22 in the nation, on par with San Francisco, Seattle, New York, and other big cities. This is the first DDA based solar rebate program in the State of Michigan and hopefully a model for other communities to follow.

This investment represents the YDDA commitment to sustainability by leveraging up to $100,000 in DDA TIF Revenues to complement the existing programs recently approved by City Council. Combined with the $80,000 Grace Sweeney Solar Rebate program approved by City Council and the $50,000 CDBG solar allocation for homes in the Heritage Park Neighborhood, there are $230,000 of new solar rebate dollars available in the City of Ypsilanti.

The DDA Solar grant made solar installation possible for Building owner Patton Doyle. He installed solar panels on his building at 16 N. Washington St. Photo from solarypsi.org. See more photos of this installation here!

The first come first serve process to apply is easy:

1) Owner gets a written quote from one or more licensed solar contractors. A list of contractors can be found here.
2) Owner verifies that they have a quote that is $3.00/watt or lower to qualify for rebate.
3) Owner sends the quote to City Hall (email or hardcopy) to reserve a rebate slot.
4) Owner is sent a notice by letter or email that the project is eligible for 50% rebate not to exceed $10,000. A rebate slot is not reserved until the owner/contractor pays for all required city building permits.
5) Owner tells the solar contractor to perform the work.
6) Owner/Contractor pulls and pays for all required City permits. Once permits are paid in full, the project will be notified by letter or email that a solar rebate slot has been reserved for the project.
7) Solar project is complete and passes all inspections within the 6-month time limit.
8) 50% Rebate check is sent to the named owner on the city permit.
9) Rebate award decisions are at the sole discretion of the YDDA
10) Owner will sign a hold harmless agreement with the City of Ypsilanti and YDDA for protection against any liability arising from solar installation.

For more information, contact us at:
cjacobs@cityofypsilanti.com

OUTDOOR MOVIE SERIES

The Ypsilanti Downtown Development Authority has sponsored six summer movies at Frog Island Park and the Normal Street Parking Lot near the Water Tower.

On September 29th, we featured Disneys Encanto at Frog Island Park!

We have one more movie for the season and we are looking forward to it with great antici.....pation.

October 27
The Rocky Horror Picture Show at Frog Island Park

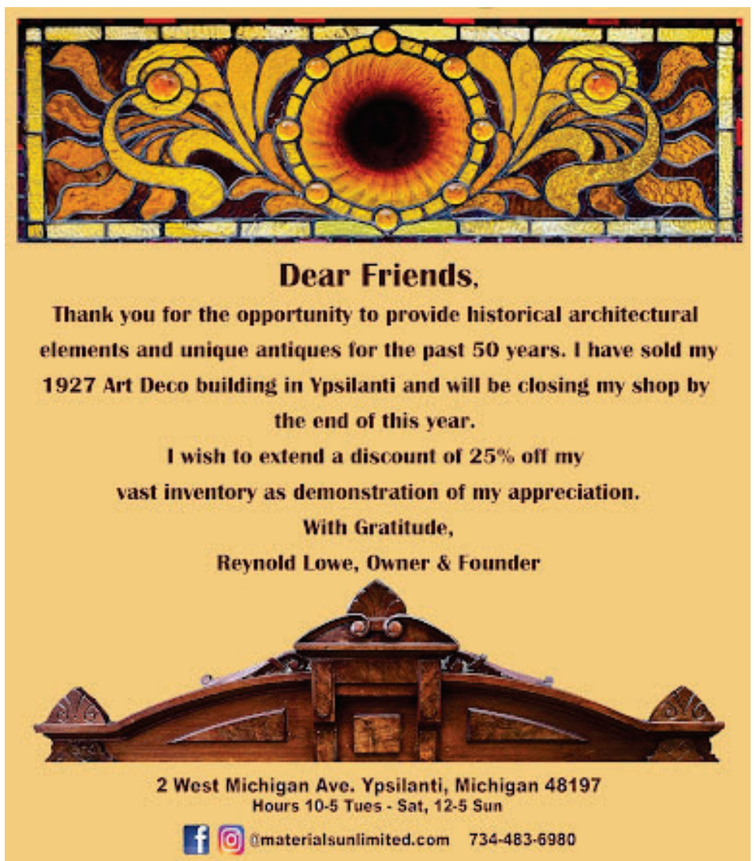
We recommend you bring your own blankets, chairs, and bug spray to the upcoming films!

Please help us get the word out and bring all your friends!

CHANGES IN THE DOWNTOWN BUSINESSES

Ziggys, a Downton live entertainment hub, is now under new management. Ziggys aims to have the business maintain its image as a place where people can come in the afternoon to grab a drink and be entertained. They are passionate about our community and have big plans for Ypsilanti. Take a look at their website for updates on evening events Tuesday- Saturday. Jazz nights on Tuesday, and if that's not your vibe, look at their month-at-a-glance schedule. If you haven't ventured out to visit this spot, we are fortunate for their vision of embracing local and visiting artists.

After 50 years in our community, Materials Unlimited will close its doors in the next three months. If you haven't visited during this time, you're missing out. Stop by and explore the wonderful collection at 25% off all inventory. We are sad to see them move on but grateful for their collection shared within Ypsilanti. Thank you, Richard Lowe and staff, for keeping Ypsilanti beautiful for these treasured years… you won't be forgotten.



HOLIDAY STOREFRONT COMPETITION

Attention DDA Business owners! Sign up is open for the second annual Holiday Storefront Competition!

Find all the details at ypsilantidda.org/holiday/

FIRST FRIDAYS YPSILANTI

First Fridays Ypsilanti is on Oct 7!

First Fridays Ypsilanti is a self-guided art and culture walk event that happens on the First Friday of each month.

Created for artists, by artists.

All FFY venues provide free events: art openings. live music. art workshops. performance arts. discounted prices and more!

22 North
22 N. Huron St; 6-9p
John Gutoskey: Cake and Flowers for My People
Sculptures of cakes and monoprints of flower bouquets protest discrimination, celebrate love, and elevate cheap, "queer" materials to the realm of the fantastic.

Back Office Studios
13 N. Washington St; 6-8p
Ypsi in October Kick-off Spooctacular
Kick-off Ypsi in October with Neighborhood Theatre Group, Holy Bones, and ypsiGLOW at The Back Office Studio. Make a mask for the Holy Bones Festival, get GLOWING with ypsiGLOW and get dressed up for a selfie station with the cast of Black

CONT. FIRST FRIDAYS - OCT 7

Cat Cabaret!

The Conjure Goddess
226 W. Michigan Ave; 3-8p
SpookTober Anniversary
Celebrating one year of the conjure goddess we will have 20%off all items in store. free door prizes, snacks and refreshments. we will also be hosting jessica Ansley of the craft justice showcasing all of her oddities.

Emmanuel Lutheran Church
201 N. River St; 5-7p
Explore Emmanuel
Visit the historic Gothic, Sandusky gray lime-stone Emmanuel Lutheran church and enjoy free snacks while admiring the dark oak paneling and stained glass art windows. Take a tour and learn of the history of this historic early Ypsilanti church.

Evenstars Chalice
36 N. Huron St; 2-7:30p
Vendor Pop-up: Shadowbear and Airow
Purveyors of folk magik supplies, witchy art, and herbal salves and ointments -- all made in the old way with song, prayer and ceremony, Shadowbear & Airow will have a pop-up vending booth inside Evenstar's Chalice as part of First Fridays Ypsi. Come in and get your apothecary, herbs, and magic supplies from our local shaman and herbalist.

Hinton Real Estate
36 N. Washington St; 5-7p
October Sweets
Come by and grab hot coco and sweet treats!

Keystone Bar & Arcade
200 W. Michigan Ave; 5p-12a
October First Fridays Karaoke Party
Come downstairs to Ypsi's favorite new dive bar and sing the night away! Doors open at 5pm and Karaoke starts at 8pm. Enjoy craft cocktails, cold beer, Detroit style pizza, classic arcade games, N64, and fresh hot delicious nostalgia! Below Bobcat Bonnies, open six nights a week.

Pearl Street Studios
108 Pearl St; 5:30-8:30p
Views of a Landfill
An open house art show and studio sale: new large paintings on display and older, smaller paintings for sale. One night only. Inspired by Hokusai's 36 Views of Mt Fuji, artist Tim Scotts paintings play with color, abstraction, and our sense of place.

Riverside Arts Center
76 N. Huron St; 8-11p
Riverside Swings
Free swing dance lesson from 8-9pm, followed by a $5 swing dance with DJs from 9-11pm. All levels of experience are welcome, and no partner required!

Stone & Spoon
110 W. Michigan Ave; 5-8p
A Festive Fall Giveaway
Join us for a Festive Fall Giveaway as we celebrate the coziest season of the year! The first bunch of lucky customers will receive a free gift.

The Gallery at Stone & Spoon (upstairs)
110 W. Michigan Ave; 5-8p
Creepy Cool
Stop by to enjoy "Creepy Cool" (Ages 16 & up) in The Gallery! Explore the things that make the hairs stand up on the backs of our necks in this haunting and playful exhibition.

This That & the ODDer Things
50 E. Cross St; 5-9p
Freaky First Fridays with special guest Artists of Horror
Get your knickerbockers up but not in a bunch and step inside a room or Horror. Artists Todd Malner and Melanie Brooks of Earthenwood designs will be in house showcasing works of sinful horror and Halloween delight.

Tipsy Ypsi
5 S. Washington St; 6-9p
DIY Paint Party & Karaoke
Join us for Ypsi's greatest DIY paint party. Come in and Karaoke for free! Painting prices ranging from $10 – $20, so there is something for everyone! We run our own Karaoke while we paint! Walk-ins Welcome! FREE If you do not wish to paint, you are welcome to come in and Karaoke/hang out!

Triple Goddess Tasting Room - Unity Vibration
93 Ecorse Rd; 7-10p
Karaoke w/Trish Kane
Karaoke w/Trish Kane is back in action! Bring your best song and your best friend and show is what you got!

Unicorn Feed & Supply
144 W. Michigan Ave; 5-8p
A Spooky Giveaway for Magical Friends
Happy Spooky Season everybody! Come one, come all and you will receive a free spooky gift (while supplies last) to celebrate our favorite season of the year! Stop in to see Reggie the Unicorn in his festive wear & to sample our new Halloween Bolt Balms!

Ypsi Food Co-op
312 N River St; 5-8p
Hispanic Heritage Month Music
Set 1 Steve Somers Jazz Trio- Set 2 Esteban F. Morales (guitar / vocals)- Set 3 WCC and YYO Jazz Band Students (Latin Jazz)- Set 4 Paul J. Miles (singer / song writer) currently residing in Switzerland- Set 4 Open Jazz Jam Session. FREE (donations welcome)

Ypsilanti Thrift Shop
14 S. Washington St; 4-8p
Leather Weather
Leather sale! Come on in and get outfitted. Great prices. Secret sale also taking place during the event, come inside to check it out

Ypsilantique
56 N. Huron St; 4-9p
Haunted Vintage Shop
YpsilAntique's sidewalk is HAUNTED! In order to keep spirits pleased Ypsilantique must sell or destroy all haunted entities surrounding the building! Items that conjure Halloween Spirits will be set up outdoors. Come buy your tricks and treats and help damn those thrifty stylish demons back to Hell.

AROUND TOWN

YPSI FARMERS MARKETS

CORNER HEALTH YOUTH LEADERSHIP

Corner Youth Leadership Council (YLC)—For anyone 12-25 years old interested in developing leadership skills, promoting change, and raising awareness about community health and safety issues. Have fun, help your community, and earn a little cash (meeting stipends provided).

Any questions, please contact Outreach@cornerhealth.org

Corner Theatre Troupe—For youth in middle and high school, no experience is necessary! As a Peer Educator, have fun while gaining acting skills, perform plays and/or monologues for your peers on important health topics, and earn a little cash (meeting stipends provided)!

Sept—June on Wednesdays from 3:30 PM - 5:00 PM

Interested? Complete this form.

FED UP

YPSIWRITES: LOVE LETTERS TO YPSILANTI

The 2023 Ypsilanti Bicentennial commemorates the 200th anniversary of the city of Ypsilanti's incorporation on April 22, 1823. We're celebrating Ypsilanti's past as well as the pride, diversity, and heritage of the city today. Join YpsiWrites in writing love letters to and about the city we love so much!

You can write your love letter to Ypsilanti or use one of the prompts created by YpsiWrites. Postcards with prompts are available at all Ypsilanti District Library branches. Submitted letters and cards may be displayed on YpsiWrites' website or at events celebrating the bicentennial.

Keep an eye on our website and social media for published letters.

https://www.ypsiwrites.com/
Another article on Love Letters to Ypsilanti: Ypsi residents celebrate city's bicentennial by writing Love Letters to Ypsilanti (secondwavemedia.com)

RESOURCE FAIR- OCTOBER 4TH

A Brighter Way helps formerly incarcerated individuals living in Washtenaw County build a stable, successful and fulfilling life.

Through support, returning citizens are able to forge strong relationships with mentoring teams, community resources and committed advocates to help create a richer community, reduced recidivism and increased public safety.

ABW is Hosting a Resource Fair For Returned Citizens and Companies and Nonprofits that support them

October 4, 2022
5:00-7:00 p.m.
Washtenaw Community College
Morris Lawrence Hall

JOIN THE HUMAN CHAIN - MOVE THE LIBRARY

Saturday, October 08, 2:00 PM - 4:00 PM It's moving day for the collection at the current Superior branch!

Help library staff move books and movies from the old location to our new branch! Be a part of a human chain, meet other library lovers, and lend a hand on this monumental day.

You'll be stationed along the path between the old and the new library, passing books down the road to their new home. Harris Road will be temporarily closed to allow participants to get materials safely across the street. Meet at 2 pm at the current location, 8795 MacArthur Blvd, to say you played a part in opening the new library!

The event will be canceled in the event of rain. See map with parking details:

SURVIVORS SPEAK - OCTOBER 8TH

The concept for "Pull Up, Turn Up" is a part of an initiative of Survivors Speak. Operation Accountability started in the Fall/Winter of 2021. This initiative was formed around holding our government officials accountable for their promises or lack thereof. This was also an opportunity for us, as community members, to understand our role in the matter.

Understanding our role is centered around elevating our voices and exercising our votes. We have the power to form our voices as one mighty sound, then follow up with our collective voting power. That would make us unstoppable. This is why we at Survivors Speak have been "Boots On The Ground," We understand that the people really hold the power, so we're committed to sound that alarm. Furthermore, we encourage community members to not only register to vote, then actually vote, but we take it a step further, encouraging the community to stay engaged and watch over those who we put in office. Our civic duties include voting and holding governmental officials accountable and if they aren't meeting our needs, we must mobilize and vote them out.

This is, in part, why we've created this community bonding moment, "Pull Up, Turn Up." This will be a moment of celebration, education, and elevation. We believe these three elements will help us to ignite the voice of the community, thus moving us steps closer to folks voting who've never voted before and being engaged and at the tables where decisions are being made for us.

During PUTU, Survivors Speak, along with a team of volunteers, will go door to door to complete the survey and voter registration with community members. This will, in turn, qualify the community member and their family to take part in the celebration. The celebration includes a Dj, Video Game Truck, Face Painting/Balloon Twister, Food Truck, and more. We'll be at Parkridge on October 8th from 1 PM - 4 PM."

Survivors Speak proudly presents:

PULL UP & TURN UP

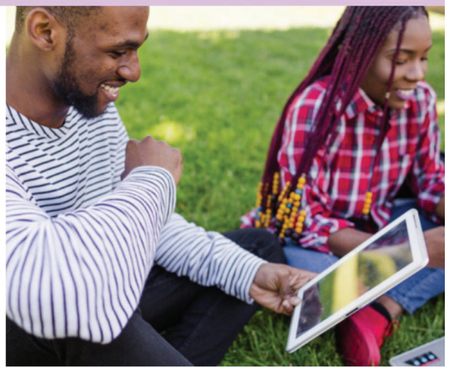
SURVIVORS SPEAK EST. 2/2018

Join us for this FREE event as we share resources, right where you live!

- Share YOUR views on a community vision and reparations
- Learn about voter rights and voter registration
- Celebrate and enjoy:
  - Refreshments
  - Video Game Truck
  - Face Painting
  - DJ
  - Vendors
  - Raffle Prizes

Outside the Parkridge Community Center

Saturday, Oct.8th
1pm – 4pm



Scan this QR code to complete our Community Vision and Reparations surveys!

Your participation in these surveys is vital in our fight for racial equity. **Completion of them will also act as your ticket to join the celebration and each will enter you into our raffle.**

For more information, please email programs@survivorsspeak.info

HOLY BONES FESTIVAL AND HALLOWEEN MARKET

On October 15th, from 1 PM -9 PM, The Holy Bones Festival returns to Ypsilanti.

For those who haven't attended The Holy Bones Festival is an immersive experience for creative souls from all walks of life, death, and everything in between. This annual event features dozens of area artisans, live performers, food, and more to benefit The YPSI.

Purchase tickets here.

NATIVE PLANT SWAP

Are you willing to share extra native plants from your yard? Or are you looking for a few native plants to add?

The Library of the Washtenaw County Conservation District for a native plant swap on October 16th, 2022, at the Ypsilanti District Library (5577 Whittaker Rd, Ypsilanti, MI 48197) between 1 - 2:30 pm!

All gardeners are welcome to come to this potluck-style event whether or not you bring a plant to "pass." If you bring plants to share, please label them. Please bring gloves and a trowel if you want to help weed and install extra plants along the edges of the detention basin and/or pollinator garden at the Ypsilanti District Library.

Interested participants are requested to register HERE or by phone (734-302-8715) to be notified in case of event changes, and minors need to be accompanied by an adult.

BLACK CAT CABARET

Join Neighborhood Theatre Group as we conjure Black Cat Cabaret from the dead with songs, spells, and screams. Featuring The NTG "Haunted" House Band, a cash bar, a costume contest, and a raffle!

Black Cat Cabaret
October 21-22 at Riverside Arts Center Art Gallery (76 N Huron St)
7 PM Doors, 8 PM Show
$13 online, $17 at door. $25 Front row "Graveside" Seats – Must show proof of vaccination at door.

To purchase tickets online, please visit Neighborhood Theatre Group's website at: www.ntgypsi.org

Directed by Kristin Anne Danko
Starring Mimi Blackford, Kylista Geiger, Mo Hoeffel, Jessica Terlep, Dinah Tutein, Greg Pizzino, and Angela VanKempen.

This show is not appropriate for young children

PERFORMANCES AT RIVERSIDE ARTS CENTER

Horizon Performing Arts are proud to present Sweeney Todd: The Demon Barber of Fleet Street at Riverside Arts Center this October! In an infamous tale, Sweeney Todd, an unjustly exiled barber, returns to nineteenth-century London, seeking vengeance against the lecherous judge who framed and ravaged his young wife. The road to revenge leads Todd to Mrs. Lovett, a resourceful proprietress of a failing pie shop, above which he opens a new barber practice. Mrs. Lovett's luck sharply shifts when Todd's thirst for blood inspires the integration of an ingredient into her meat pies that has the people of London lining up... and the carnage has only just begun! This production is rated R and is not recommended for children.

Show dates and location: October 27, 28, and 29 at 7 p.m.; October 30 at 1 p.m. at Riverside Arts Center.

Tickets:
$18 Regular Admission;
$16 Students/Seniors;

Visit horizon.booktix.com to purchase tickets.

HALLOWEEN DOWNTOWN

ALL HALLOWS RETURNS

On Tuesday, November 1st, from 7 PM to 9PM, Please join us for the 4th annual All Hallows Illumination of Frog Island!

Walk, red wagon, bike, or drive your jack o'lanterns to the Frog Island amphitheater to light it & our track with our aged jacks. Costumes are encouraged of course, for this FREE event. Fire Spinners Ypsi Spin Jam plans to perform first, followed by Black Jake & the Carnies (tips encouraged!) Just us, an illuminated Tridge, a park of our glowing jacks & these wonderful performers!
Event Page

CITY CALENDAR - OCTOBER 2022

FOR UPDATES AND MORE INFO CLICK HERE

PUBLIC MEETINGS AND ADMINISTRATIVE CALENDAR

ALL HELD AT CITY HALL - 1 S. HURON UNLESS OTHERWISE STATED

November General Election Absentee Ballots Available for Voters
September 29, 2022, 8:00 AM - November 7, 2022, 4:00 PM

Zoning Board of Appeals Meeting
October 3, 2022, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

City Council Meeting
October 4, 2022, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Administrative Hearings Bureau
October 6, 2022, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Sustainability Commission Meeting
October 10, 2022, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Historic District Commission
October 11, 2022, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Administrative Hearings Bureau
October 13, 2022, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Arts Commission Meeting
October 13, 2022, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

Fire & Police Retirement Board Meeting
October 17, 2022, 9:00 AM - 11:00 AM
Eagle Crest
1201 S Huron Street, Ypsilanti, MI 48197
Board of Ethics Meeting
October 17, 2022, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Parks & Recreation Commission Meeting
October 17, 2022, 7:00 PM - 9:00 PM

City Council Meeting
October 18, 2022, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Planning Commission Meeting
October 19, 2022, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Administrative Hearings Bureau
October 20, 2022, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Last Day to Register to Vote other than in Person for the November General Election
October 24, 2022, 8:00 AM - 5:00 PM

In-person voter Registration for the November General Election
October 25, 2022, 8:00 AM - November 8, 2022, 8:00 PM

Historic District Commission
October 25, 2022, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

Administrative Hearings Bureau
October 27, 2022, 9:00 AM - 2:00 PM

Bicentennial Committee Meeting
October 27, 2022, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM
Freighthouse

Police Advisory Commission Meeting
October 27, 2022, 7:00 PM - 10:00 PM

EVENTS AND RECREATION CALENDAR

RECURRING EVENTS

Ypsilanti Farmers Market
9AM-1PM
October 8, 15, 22, 29
100 Rice St

Downtown Farmers Market
3-7PM
October 4, 11, 18, 25
16 S. Washington

Yoga at Ypsilanti Senior Center
1-2:30PM
October 7, 14, 21, 27,28
Senior Citizens Center -1015 N. Congress
Register HERE

Ypsi Arbor American Little League Practice
5:30-6:30PM
October 3-7, 10-14, 17-21, 24-28
Recreation Park
Waterworks Park
Candy Cane Park

Ypsi Arbor American Little League Games
PM
October 8, 15, 22, 29
Recreation Park
Waterworks Park
Candy Cane Park

First Fridays Ypsilanti
Oct 7 - All Day
Various events all evening around Ypsi

Pull Up, Turn Up presented by Survivors Speak
October 8, 2022, 1:00 PM - 4:00 PM
Parkridge Park

2nd Annual Family Fall Festival
October 8, 2022, 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Frog Island Park

Book Brigade for YDL
October 8, 2022, 2:00 PM
Superior Branch

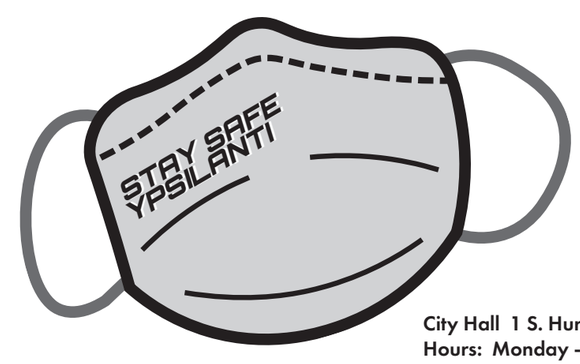
ADD YOUR FREE COMMUNITY EVENT ON THE CITY CALENDAR TO BE LISTED HERE. MUST BE IN OR RELATED TO THE CITY OF YPSILANTI. EMAIL TKOCH@CITYOFYPSILANTI.COM WITH EVENT DETAILS.

Home of New Vision Fall Festival
October 8, 2022, 2:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Frog Island Park

Water Makes the Mitten: Stand against Line 5
October 9, 2022, 3:00 PM - 6:00 PM
Frog Island Park

4th Annual Holy Bones Festival
October 15, 2022, 1:00 PM - 9:00 PM
The YPSI

Ypsilanti Trunk or Treat Powered by The Patient Station
October 30, 2022, 3:00 PM - 7:00 PM
Riverside Park



Do you have something happening in the city you'd like to share in the monthly newsletter?
Email your article to tkoch@cityofypsilanti.com
Submissions are due on the 15th of each month.

CITY OF YPSILANTI NEWSLETTER
COMPILED AND WRITTEN BY: THOMAS KOCH
DESIGN & LAYOUT: ELIZE JEKABSON

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Hours: Monday - Friday: 8am-4pm cityofypsilanti.com